



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY

D.T.E. 06-30

March 31, 2006

Petition of Mass 211, Inc. requesting approval by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy to implement the abbreviated dialing code "211" for use as a statewide community information and referral service.

NOTICE OF INVESTIGATION AND PUBLIC HEARING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

On May 12, 2000, the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") approved the assignment of the abbreviated dialing code "211" to Mass211, Inc. ("Mass211") for use as a community information and referral service in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. See Petition by the Massachusetts Association of Information and Referral Services and the Council of Massachusetts United Ways, acting in partnership as the Mass 211 Task Force, requesting approval by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy for the assignment of the abbreviated dialing code "211" to the Mass 211 Task Force for use as a statewide community referral service, D.T.E. 99-71 (2000) ("211 Assignment Order"). The Department's assignment of the 211 code to Mass211 was conditioned upon Mass211 securing firm commitments for sufficient operational funding. 211 Assignment Order at 15. Specifically, the Department stated that prior to implementation, the Department would "conduct an expedited review of the sufficiency and firmness of both short and long term funding for the 211 program." Id.

On December 13, 2005, Mass 211 submitted to the Department its income and expense plan for review and approval prior to its implementation of the statewide 211 information and referral service. On March 28, 2006, Mass211 submitted additional documentation to support its request for Department approval. This proceeding for expedited review of Mass211's financial readiness to implement and operate the 211 information and referral service is docketed as D.T.E. 06-30. The Mass211's income and expense plan and supporting documentation may be viewed at the Department's offices and on the Department's website: <http://www.mass.gov/dte>.

The Department will hold a public hearing to receive oral comments on the Mass211 income and expense plan and supporting documentation for implementation of the 211 program on **Friday, April 28, 2006, at 10:00 a.m.** at the Department's offices at One South

Station, Second Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. In lieu of oral comments, interested persons may file written comments no later than close of business on **Friday, April 28, 2006** by submitting an original and three (3) copies of the written comments to Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station, Second Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110.

Written comments must also be submitted to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail attachment to dte.efiling@state.ma.us and Tina.Chin@state.ma.us; or (2) on a 3.5" floppy disk. The text of the e-mail or the disk label must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding, D.T.E. 06-30; (2) name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. The electronic filing should also include the name, title, and phone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. Text responses should be written in either WordPerfect, Microsoft Word, or as an Adobe-compatible PDF file. Data or spreadsheet responses should be compatible with Microsoft Excel. All comments submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's web site: <http://www.mass.gov/dte>.

Any person desiring further information regarding this notice may contact: Tina W. Chin, Hearing Officer, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, tel. (617) 305-3500.

By Order of the Department,

/s/
MARY L. COTTRELL, SECRETARY